

Assertions that CW is obsolete are incorrect.

Such assertions fail to address that CW equipment can be built and maintained by amateurs, whereas such is not the case for the new data modes, which require computers and radio modems. A CW transceiver can be built or purchased for approximately \$100, whereas upwards of \$500 must be spent for the other data modes.

Compared to phone (voice), a CW signal can be decoded while only using 10% of the power.

CW remains the mode of last resort after a major disaster: It uses simple, inexpensive equipment that is widely dispersed, it goes the furthest on the least power and it can be decoded under adverse conditions.

It is vital that CW proficiency continue to be encouraged. My preference would be to reserve in every amateur band two sub-bands for CW -- one for low power (under 50 watts) and one for legal limit power. These should be established not by voluntary band plan but by force of law.